

SECTION 10 - GUIDE FOR PATIENT PLACEMENT

I. GENERAL.

The criteria and placement recommendations contained in the following policies are to be used by the healthcare providers as a guideline for all admissions and transfers.

II. SPECIFIC.

Patients who contaminate the environment with body fluids - i.e., patient with uncovered draining lesions, incontinent individuals or pediatric patients in diapers, patients with a productive cough who do not reliably cover their mouth, or those who have an airborne disease are considered a hazard to other patients and should be carefully evaluated by the admitting healthcare worker to assure appropriate patient placement.

III. PATIENT PLACEMENT CHART GUIDE.

A. The chart on the following page is to be utilized as a guide. Classify the patients by medical diagnosis, known diagnostic results, and/or surgical procedure. These categories are not finite. You must evaluate many aspects of each patient to assure proper placement. A comprehensive list of surgical classifications and medical diagnoses are found in Section 10B, and 10C. Definitions designed to assist with this tool are located in Section 10A, Surgical Classifications.

B. If a patient has been admitted to evaluate for possible surgery, you might want to “pre-class” them with the surgical class of the procedure they are being evaluated for.

C. If their hygiene is very poor, or if they are not able to walk to the bathroom, this should be evaluated when choosing between which rooms have bathroom access and which do not. Also consider who might be sharing the bathroom (in the adjoining room) with the patient in question.

D. Social considerations should not be overlooked. An individual admitted with VIP status should not take precedence over the precautions needed for safe patient placement. Information regarding the status of the bed situation needs to be communicated to administration if decisions must be made.

E. Patients admitted with a diagnosis of a sensitive nature that may require increased privacy for the patient must be considered. For example, a sudden miscarriage or unexpected fetal demise. A diagnosis that requires the quiet of a private room could be indicated for someone with a migraine headache or impending death.

F. Location in relationship to the nurse's station should also be evaluated if the patient required suicide or seizure precautions, is confused or elderly.

G. Also reference the Infection Control Manual for additional information on diseases and specific organisms. Contact the HICO if further assistance is needed.

CHART TO ASSIST WITH PATIENT PLACEMENT DECISIONS

Find the #'s matching each patient on the "X" & "Y" axis	SURGICAL CATEGORIES				MEDICAL CATEGORIES		
	1. Class I <i>Clean</i>	2. Class II <i>Clean- Contam.</i>	3. Class III <i>Contaminated</i>	4. Class IV <i>Dirty</i>	5. Non-infected patient	6. High risk of acquiring infection	7. Patient is potentially infectious.
1. Class I <i>Clean</i>	YES	YES- if necessary	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
2. Class II <i>Clean- Contaminated</i>	YES- if necessary	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
3. Class III <i>Contaminated</i>	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
4. Class IV <i>Dirty</i>	NO	NO	NO	YES *	YES	NO	NO
5. Non-infected Medical patient	YES	YES	YES	YES - if no drainage	YES	YES	YES
6. High risk of acquiring infection	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
7. Patient is potentially infectious	NO	NO	YES - if necessary	YES	YES*	NO	NO

* Must check with Disease-Specific Precautions